IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1 to 15. (canceled).

16. (currently amended) A method of producing a quartz glass crucible, said method comprising:

preparing a crucible body being configured such that the resulting crucible is adapted to receive therein a melt used in a crystal pulling process, said crucible body having a concavity with an inner layer that forms an innermost layer of the resulting crucible that, when said melt is received in the crucible, is in contact with the melt, and in ~~which in~~ at least a portion of the inner layer ~~thereof~~ the formation of cristobalite is induced using a crystallization promoter,

said preparing including introducing said crystallization promoter and a reducing substance into said inner layer, said reducing substance being a substance capable of reacting during the crystal pulling process with gaseous oxygen to produce an oxidized solid.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said reducing substance is formed from at least part of said crystallization promoter.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein an oxygen or nitrogen compound in the inner layer is formed by oxidation of said reducing substance, and said compound is a solid up to a temperature of at least 1450°C.

19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said reducing substance has a reducing action that is adjusted by reducing conditions provided during preparation of said inner layer.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein said inner layer is produced by arc melting using at least one graphite electrode.

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said reducing substance has a reducing action that is adjusted by reducing conditions provided during preparation of said inner layer.

22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements.

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements.

24. (previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements.

25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements.

26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains an alkaline-earth metal compound containing one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, or zirconium.

27. (currently amended) A method of producing a quartz glass crucible, said method comprising:

preparing a crucible body having a concavity with an inner layer in which in at least a portion thereof the formation of cristobalite is induced using a crystallization promoter, said preparing including introducing said crystallization promoter and a reducing substance into said inner layer; and

wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements; and

~~The method according to claim 22,~~ wherein the initial substance for the reducing substance contains barium titanate or barium zirconate in a concentration between 0.003 mol % and 0.02 mol % in a spreading material.

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the barium titanate or barium zirconate is present in the spreading material in a concentration between 0.005 mol % and 0.01 mol %.

29. (currently amended) A method of producing a quartz glass crucible, said method comprising:

preparing a crucible body having a concavity with an inner layer in which in at least a portion thereof the formation of cristobalite is induced using a crystallization promoter, said preparing including introducing said crystallization promoter and a reducing substance into said inner layer; and

wherein said reducing substance is formed from an initial substance which contains one or more of the elements titanium, tungsten, molybdenum, silicon, zirconium or a compound of one or more of said elements; and

~~The method according to claim 22,~~ wherein the reducing substance contains at least one of titanium silicide and tungsten silicide present in a concentration between 0.002 mol % and 0.5 mol %.

30. (previously presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein the titanium silicide or tungsten silicide is present in a concentration between 0.004 mol % and 0.4 mol %.

31. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said inner layer is produced using SiO_2 grains which contain said reducing substance or which contain a feed material for forming said reducing substance as a dopant.

32. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein at least one further reducing substance of a different chemical composition from the first reducing substance are introduced into said inner layer at the same time.

33. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein a concentration gradient of said reducing substance is set in said inner layer.

34. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said crystallization promoter comprises Al_2O_3 present in a concentration between 0.15 and 0.5 mol %.

35. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said crystallization promoter comprises Al_2O_3 present in a concentration between 0.2 and 0.3 mol %.